



NEWS RELEASE



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service
Delta Regional Office (serving Arkansas, Louisiana, and Mississippi)
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USDA to Measure Crop Production Throughout the Growing Season

Baton Rouge, LA – How will this year's weather conditions affect crop production? The Monthly Agricultural Yield Survey conducted by the U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) will survey U.S. farmers beginning April 29, 2016, regarding yields of the major small grains throughout the growing season.

"At the beginning of each month from May through July 2016, NASS will mail the Agricultural Yield Survey to farmers in all states except Alaska and Hawaii," said NASS Louisiana State Statistician Nathan Crisp. "Which commodities the survey asks about varies from state to state, but in all cases the initial survey asks farmers how many acres of particular crops they planted, how many acres they intend to harvest, and their expected yield per acre. In subsequent months, the same farms are asked to update their expected yield per acre."

The Agricultural Yield Survey captures changes in yield that occur due to weather, pests, disease and other factors. NASS encourages producers to respond via the Internet but also welcomes mail or fax responses and offers the opportunity for a telephone or personal interview to those producers who did not respond by the deadline.

NASS will compile and analyze the survey information and publish the results monthly, May through July, in the *Crop Production* report and publishes final yield and production data the following January in the *Annual Crop Production* report.

As with all NASS surveys, information provided by respondents is confidential, as required by federal law. "NASS safeguards the privacy of all respondents and publishes only state-and national-level data, ensuring that no individual operation or producer can be identified," stated Crisp. These and all NASS reports are available online at www.nass.usda.gov. For more information call the NASS Delta Regional Office at (800) 327-2970.

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NASS provides accurate, timely, useful and objective statistics in service to U.S. agriculture. We invite you to provide occasional feedback on our products and services. Sign up at <http://usda.mannlib.cornell.edu/subscriptions> and look for "NASS Data User Community."

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